

The Downman

NEWS AND INFORMATION MAGAZINE

The evening comes, the fields are still,
The tinkle of the thirsty rill
Unheard all day ascends again;
Deserted in the half-mown plain,
Silent the swathes! The ringing wain,
The mower's cry, the dogs alarms,
All housed within the sleeping farms!
The business of the day is done,
The last-left hay-maker is gone.
And from the thyme upon the height,
And from the elder-blossom white
And pale dog-roses in the hedge,
And from the mint plant in the sedge,
In puffs of balm the night-air blows
The perfume which the day fore-goes.
And on the pure horizon far,
See, pulsing with the first-born star,
The liquid sky above the hill!
The evening comes, the fields are still.

Matthew Arnold

PARISH OF SIXPENNY HANDLEY WITH PENTRIDGE

June 2000

**Including: Woodyates, Deanland and Minchington
Published by Sixpenny Handley Parish Council
Delivered by Sixpenny Handley Homewatch**

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(Previously Sixpennies Pre-School)

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(Previously Sixpennies Pre-School Link Group)

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Chairman	Tony Dale.....	552540
Secretary	Brian Hansford.....	552468
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-Sun	Stuart Haskell.....	552498

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Chairman	Pamela Wood.....	552608
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Chairperson	Penny Morrison.....	552024
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Chairman	Godfrey Turner.....	552533
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Secretary	Brian Hansford.....	552468

Welcome to the latest edition of The Downsman.

Continue to send your contributions to.....

Alan Vincent, 5 The Parsonage, Sixpenny Handley, SP5 5QJ

Telephone – 01725 552788, Office Hours - 01722 412202.

E-mail: alan@num5.freerve.co.uk



The next edition of this
Magazine
will be published on the

1st August 2000
Copy Deadline is
19th July 2000

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2000-2001

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HANDLEY SPORTS CLUB

'100' Club 1999/2000

Draw No 7 - April 2000

£40 - 116 K New, Sheasby Close, S H
£10 - 179 K Walters, Cobley Close
Woodyates
£10 - 122 Bill Gillem, High Street S H
£5 - 160 S J Green, Gussage St Michael

Draw No 8 - May 2000

£40 - 152 Barry Howes, Deanland
£10 - 27 S Hibberd, Horton, Wimborne
£10 - 64 D G Haskell, Common Road, S H

**Sixpenny Handley
Annual Flower Show
Saturday August 19th 2000**



**Sixpenny Handley Flower
Arranging Club**

June 19th Visit to a garden
July 17th 'Summer Glory' practice evening

WEDNESDAY CLUB will meet in June, July and August as follows:

THE WEDNESDAY CLUB

June 14th "Country Ways" with Norman Goodland.

June 28th "Local History", with John Day

July 12th "Queen Elizabeth School Music Group"

August 16th Garden Meeting at North Farm, Gussage St Michael.

All meetings start at 2.30 pm at the Village Hall;
there's no need to book in - just come along and join in.

The Committee are delighted to announce that **Carole Wyatt** has joined the Committee, and we extend a warm welcome to her.

Archeological Walk 15th July - Down Farm

Martin Green, is well known locally as an independent archeologist, and is an authority on the pre-history of Cranborne Chase and area (Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age). He is leading an Archeological farm walk, at his farm, Down Farm, near Sixpenny Handley, on Saturday 15th July. The walk will start at 2.00 p.m.

The farm is situated on the Dorset Cursus and much of interest has already been found, and the event will, no doubt, be instructive. There will also be an opportunity to visit Mr Green's museum also on the farm, and adjacent to where the walk will start.

One of Mr Green's excavations has been featured in 'Meet the Ancestors' on television, and in the book of the same name. This features the Cranborne woman and three children ca. 4000 BC.

The event is in aid of a millennium project being sponsored by Salisbury Methodist Church for a tree planting initiative in The Gambia. Mango trees will be strategically planted to provide reforestation, helping to prevent further encroachment of the desert. They grow well and also provide a cash crop for the local community.

Our target is £10,000 and we are hoping a good number will come on the 15th July to have a good and interesting afternoon out and help increase our funds.

The cost is £5.00 for an adult (half price children under 12) or £12.00 for a family ticket; payable on arrival. There is adequate and safe parking, as someone will remain at the meeting area throughout. Dogs may be brought but must be kept under control (on a lead).

For further details and directions, nearer the time, anyone can contact Gwen or Roger Watkins on 01725 552188 (evg.) or 01725 552422 (day).

Gwen and Roger Watkins.

In House Hair

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Tuesday 9 - 5

Wednesday 9 - 6

Thursday 9 - 5

Friday 9 - 6

Saturday 9 - 2

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(We would like to congratulate Mrs Starr of
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SIXPENNY HANDLEY FIRST SCHOOL

“Learning about Religion.....”

(a key element of the Dorset Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education, 1998)

Religious Education these days involves the study of many world faiths: all over the country children have the opportunity, during their time at school, to study the beliefs and practices of five major religions in addition to Christianity.

Last term, older pupils at Sixpenny Handley found their study of Islam greatly enhanced by the visit of Mr Tariq Palmer, who is associated with the Bournemouth Mosque. As a Muslim himself, Mr Palmer was able to give the class a very comprehensive introduction to Islam and its key beliefs, and to describe and explain many practical aspects of the Islamic way of life. He also brought a rich variety of Islamic artefacts for us to examine. The children found the visit very interesting and enjoyable; some of their observations are recorded below.

“Today Mr Palmer came to the school and told us about Muslims and the **Five Pillars of Islam**. In order the Pillars are: Shahadah, Salah, Zakat, Sawm and Hajj.” *Ellen Yates*

this because he is a Muslim.” *Ellen Yates*

“Mr Palmer told us that some prayer mats have compasses on them. We asked him lots of

“The Islamic religion is based on Allah, the Islamic God. He is the one true God and Muslims have five special duties to do for him. The first one is **Shahadah**: every day a Muslim declares that Allah is the one true God and Muhammed is his prophet.” *Sam Potter*

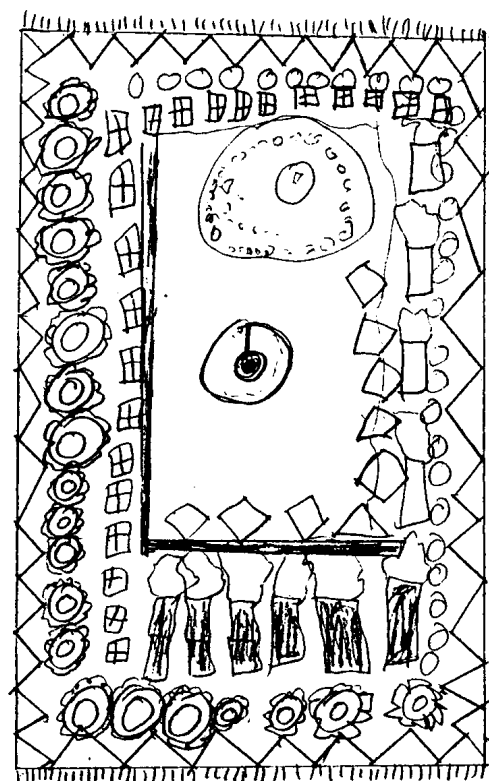
“For Muslims, the real God is Allah and Muhammed is his prophet. They believe that Jesus, Abraham and Adam are also prophets.” *Christopher Masson*

“The second one is **Salah**. Every day a Muslim prays five times, once early in the morning, three times in the day and last thing at night.” *Sam Potter*

“Before Muslims do their prayers they have to wash themselves to make sure they're clean and holy.” *Natalie Downs*

“Mr Palmer told us interesting things about being a Muslim. He said that when you get down to pray you have to cover your head with a special hat. If you are travelling you have to pull in sometimes when it is time to pray.” *Jessie Baynes*

“Muslims have to pray on a clean carpet or a prayer mat. Muslims can still pray when they are driving. They just pull in and get their prayer mat and pray on it. Mr Palmer knew all

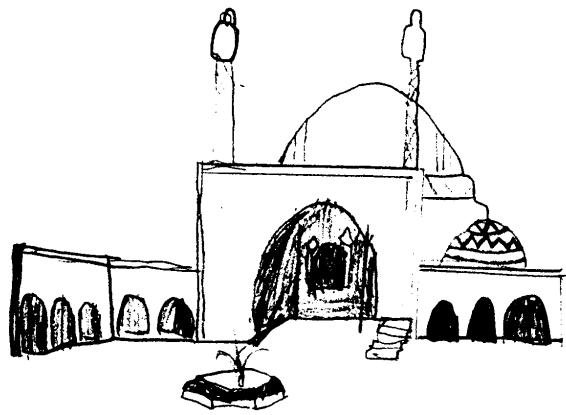


questions.”

James Foxhall

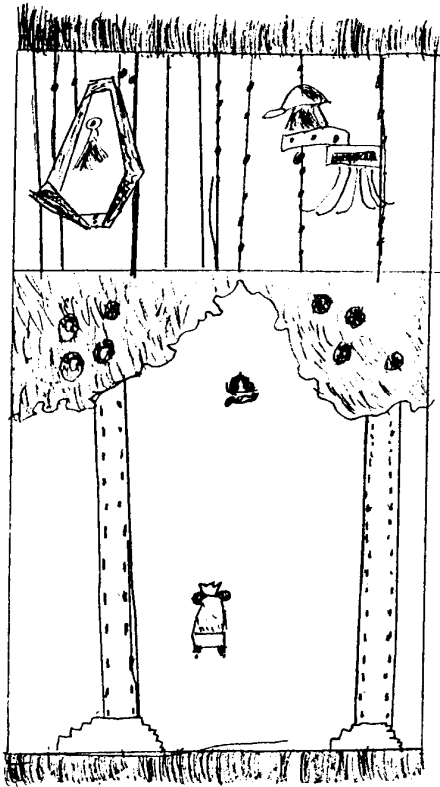
Prayer mat (Ben Muspratt)

“Muslims have a prayer mat or pray on clean ground. You have to face the Ka’aba in Mecca. They go to a mosque to pray with other Muslims. They have to pray five times a day to Allah.”
Mary Gillett



A mosque (Thomas Bishop)

Islamic food laws were of special interest:



Prayer mat (Adam Barker-Wyatt)

“In English, the Call to Prayer means:
 God is the Greatest
 God is the Greatest
 God is the Greatest
 God is the Greatest
 I bear witness that there is no God but Allah,
 I bear witness that there is no God but Allah,
 I bear witness that Muhammed is the messenger of Allah,
 I bear witness that Muhammed is the messenger of Allah,
 Come to prayer,
 Come to prayer,
 Come to security,
 Come to security,
 God is the most Great,
 God is the most Great,
 There is no God but Allah.”

The third Pillar of Islam is **Zakat**, which means giving to charity:

“A Muslim gives about 2.5% of money he has received and not spent in a year. Zakat is thought of as an offering to Allah... Not to give Zakat would mean they were not doing their duty and were cheating Allah.”
Sam Potter

The fourth Pillar is **Sawm**, or fasting:

“In the month of fasting called Ramadan Muslims have to get up at 5am in the morning to eat before sunrise and not eat or drink anything until the sun sets at night.”
Bill Meaden

“Muslims never eat pork, because they think pigs are not clean animals, and they do not drink alcohol.”
Bill Meaden

Mr Palmer also told his audience about the Islamic holy book, **the Qur’an**:
 “The Qur’an is written in Arabic. You don’t read the Qur’an like an English book, you read it from right to left not left to right. Some of the letters look beautiful. He said that the Qur’an wasn’t allowed to touch the floor. If the Qur’an is wrongly copied they would bury it or burn it; it has to be the same as the original Arabic version. He read some of the Qur’an out, it sounded very weird!”
Natalie Downs

Going on a **Hajj**, or pilgrimage, is the fifth Pillar of Islam:

“It is the most special event in the life of a Muslim. Every Muslim is expected to go on the Hajj once in his life but not many people can afford to go. The pilgrimage goes to visit the Ka’aba and the Mosque in Mecca, where Muhammed was born, and to Medina, where he started the first Islamic community. The pilgrims have to wear a plain white cloth to show they are all the same before Allah.”

Thomas Rose

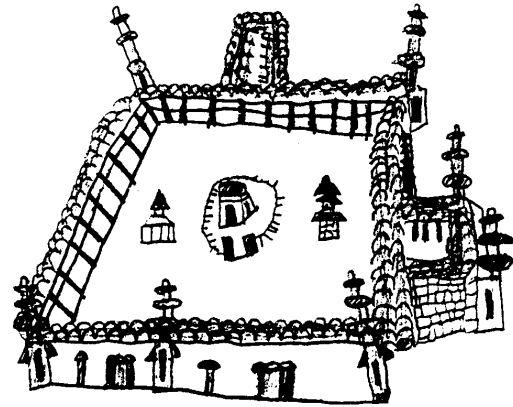
“Mr Palmer showed us a picture of the Ka’aba and the Mosque in Mecca. The Ka’aba is a black box in the middle of the Mosque.”

Jane



Parsons

Mr Tariq Palmer demonstrates typical Arabic headgear.



The Great Mosque in Mecca (Sam Potter)

“I thought it was very interesting because he showed us all the religious things they use... I thought that Muslims live in a very different way from us. When Mr Palmer spoke in the Arabic language it sounded very funny.”

Martha Bishop

“I thought it was very good because Tariq Palmer talked about some things that we didn't know about.”

Goddard

“I thought it was very nice for Mr Palmer to come because he told us about the holy Qur'an, the mat and the clothes that they wore. Tariq Palmer was a Muslim himself, so he was very good at saying it. At the end we heard a tape of somebody praying and it was very interesting. It is very nice to learn about the Arabic language because I never had learnt about it before. I wish I could learn some more about it.”

Zita Baynes

“I could never make a Muslim. It would be too hard. I would not live without pork and I would not be able to get up that early and do the regular duties or remember all of the Qur'an, or fast for the month of Ramadan.”

Benjamin Hughes

“We thought that some things are different, but some things are similar in Islam and Christianity. They both believe in one true God, and pray to Him often. Christians and Muslims both have a special holy book to guide them, and they both have a special place, a church or a mosque, to worship God. Some people in history, like Adam and Abraham, are special in both religions. Christians and Muslims both think you should help other people and give to charity, you should be humble to God and you

The Happy Nappy Club



The Happy Nappy Club
meets at the Village Hall
on Monday mornings
between 10 and 11:30am
(during school term)

We will really welcome you and your children. We'd love you to come and visit us to meet for a friendly chat while your children play. You're welcome to bring along any friends or relations with you! This club is run to give mothers, carers and kids a chance to meet, so come and see for yourself.

We have tons of toys here and plenty of room to play. There are slides, climbing frame, bikes, trikes, sit-n-rides, play tent, tunnels, books, puzzles, painting, playdough, play kitchen, dressing up clothes, and even a parachute! There is also an opportunity to join in with action rhymes at the end of the morning.



Everyone is welcome - from babies and toddlers to children up to school age, with their mums, dads, nannies and minders! £1.40 per morning, refreshments inclusive.

If you have any queries phone Penny on
01725 552024

NOTES FROM RSPB GARSTON WOOD



Around one hundred people took advantage of the Open Day guided tours on May 14th and the RSPB members who arranged the day were amazed to find not only sunshine but not a drop of rain fell! All the usual spring flowers were showing well, including some late bluebells and ramsons. The highlight of the day in floral terms was a pristine Bird's Nest Orchid that has come up in the usual place on the top ride, after missing out in 1999.

The Early Purple orchids have continued to expand their colonies in the wood so that the largest collection now comprises around 60 plants. Interesting migrant birds proved much more elusive with an absence of Turtle Dove this year and a spotted Flycatcher that must have moved on from the day before. However there were at least nine Blackcaps calling along with three or four each of Willow and Garden Warblers.

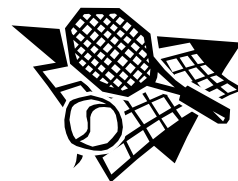
The Open Day also saw the opening of the ride through the plantation: Access is from the kissing gate in the car park. The path meanders to the very top of the wood and includes a seating area for watching the birds that prefer a coniferous environment, such as Goldcrests and Coal Tits. In order to meet health and safety regulations, the path has been raked clear of brush as far as possible, cleared of stumps and warning signs erected, so please take care. Even a woodland path is governed by rules these days!

Has anyone noticed that Cuckoos are in short supply this year? Once again the wildlife is proving unpredictable, no doubt due to a variety of causes, but there are a few unwelcome signs this year of a decline in species. The wood appears to have only six breeding pairs of thrush, down from nine over the last few years, Two Turtle Doves appeared but seem to have moved on and there are no local records in the Newtown area at present. It is not all doom and gloom because research into the huge loss of Linnets has found that they will breed successfully on areas of oil-seed rape. Unlike Yellowhammers, who have adapted to birdtables and other foods to supplement their loss of arable and grassland seeds due to intensive farming, Linnets have just declined, nationally by more than 40%, locally by more than that. Hopefully, farmers will find rape a useful crop and if more is grown then the population should recover somewhat.

Once again, we are having a cold and wet spell in May that threatens to destroy many eggs and chicks. During our May survey of Dormouse boxes we again found them largely filled with birds, mostly varieties of tits feeding newly hatched chicks. The lack of insects in the cold and wet may well prove enough to stave these broods in boxes and for those birds unfortunate enough to have a 'natural nest outside' they may also freeze to death from the wet. For those species that breed much earlier, such as Starlings and Robins, their chicks are now fully fledged and able to fend for themselves if necessary. They are also lucky that the wet brings up a diet of earthworms. For the first time ever, we have found a number of boxes with Wrens nesting. Their nests resemble those made by a long tailed tit in a box but rather than a complete ball of woven material, it has a small, circular clear area under the lid that seems to serve no purpose. Studying wildlife is a never-ending learning process.

David Tucker

Sixpenny Handley Tennis Club



After a week of dry weather, it was a pity that thundery rain arrived to mar the first day of play in the "Play Tennis 2000" initiative on 6 May. However, the inclement weather did little to dampen the enthusiasm of the youngsters taking part and at the end of play, Harriet Noble of nearby Cranborne was declared the winner, with local boy, Peter Bolton, runner up.

The following day witnessed some excellent adult doubles play, with eight participating partnerships. Split into two groups, Phil Sutherland and Michael Catchpole emerged the winners of Group 1, with two victories and one defeat, while Group 2 victors were Jon Carlisle and Paul Noble. Without any shadow of doubt, the highlight of the morning's play was the epic battle twixt the Phil Sutherland/Michael Catchpole pairing and Annie Noble/Ollie Carlisle. At 5 games to 3, and serving for the match, Phil and Michael seemed assured of victory, but Annie and Ollie stuck doggedly to their game and not only broke service but continued to hold their own service game and with the set tied at five games apiece, went on to break their opponents for a second time and so win the match 6 to 5. Stuart and Andrew Tough, too, played some fine tennis, missing out on a Group 1 win by the narrowest of margins.

All in all, it had been a good weekend for tennis and grateful thanks are extended to Roni Peck for organising the play over the two days.

The planned barbecue on 7 May had to be cancelled, due to a heavy thunderstorm but Michael Catchpole was able to announce the winners of the various winter competitions. Sadly, illness prevented Mrs Ashley Cooper from presenting the trophy bearing her name to Jill Carlisle, winner of the Ladies Singles. All Members wish Mrs Ashley Cooper well and trust she will be able to attend other events during the summer.

Ladies Doubles	Hilary Brown and Rosemary Dyke
Mens Doubles	Phil Sutherland and Bill Chorley
Mixed Doubles	Jill Carlisle and Ollie Carlisle
Ladies Singles	Jill Carlisle

Bill Chorley

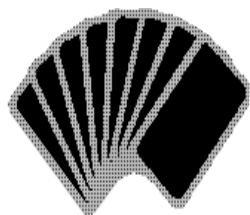
Summer Tennis Diary (please refer to the notice board in the pavilion for precise details of timings and other information):

Each Monday	Coaching for all age groups, 2.30 to 8.30 pm
Each Wednesday	Coaching for adults, morning sessions
Each Thursday	Club Members evening

Additional coaching will be held on Saturday mornings.

Saturday 15th July & Sunday 16th July, "Play Tennis 2000 Initiative"

Whist at The Village Hall



Ray Parsons of Stourpaine clinched victory in the post Christmas whist contest, at the village hall, on 19 April with a final round total of 175, which, on the adjusted scores for the six competitive rounds, placed him eighteen points ahead of Joan Gocher who, in turn, finished fourteen points clear of Sylvia Thorne. Throughout the contest, Ray, who competed in seven of the eight qualifying drives, returned consistently high scores, though both Joan and Sylvia maintained very strong pressure right up to the final hands. In fourth place, with an adjusted score of 1003 points, was Gerald Trickey who won the final meeting by returning an excellent card totalling 180 points.

This end of season meeting witnessed a welcome invasion from John and Nora Davis's family, which, when all were seated occupied two-and-a quarter tables! By close of play John and Nora's four grandchildren, Saul (making his second visit of the season), Naomi, Claire and Elaine, had returned creditable scores of 150, 158, 140 and 161 respectively, while Elizabeth Davis was amongst the leaders for the evening with 177 points.

In recognition of their work in attending to the refreshments throughout the past season, Monica and Glynnis were presented with a flower basket each, while half-a-bottle of whiskey was put aside for Fred Denham who, unavoidably absent, had acted as Master of Ceremonies for twelve of the fourteen drives.

Final table positions.											Adjusted score
1. Ray Parsons	181	181	148	163	174	162	175			1186	1038
2. Joan Gocher	162	175	170	157	149	176	166	171		1326	1020
3. Sylvia Thorne	162	162	169	164	168	156	170	173		1324	1006
4. Gerald Trickey	163	167	168	155	161	164	180			1158	1003
5. Margaret Fowgies	161	165	170	167	151	166	168			1148	997
6. Betty Stevens	177	158	168	162	149	167	159			1140	991
7. Myrtle Fox	177	154	157	168	158	154	170			1138	984
8. Mary Bennett	174	144	161	157	154	163	168			1121	977
9. Peter Braithwaite	163	162	159	151	141	166	170	154		1266	974
10. Wilf Jacobs	172	157	152	157	169	161	143	157		1268	
	973										

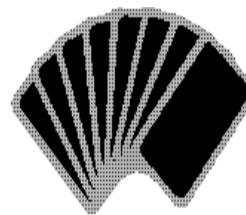
The remaining qualifiers returned adjusted scores of:

11. Bill Chorley	968	26. Mrs R Jacobs	948
12. Arthur Austin	966	27. Marge Poolman	947
13. Sylv Day	966	28. Sam Poolman	946
14. Ted Gibson	966	29. Rita Austin	944
15. Zoe Haskell	964	30. Fred Denham	939
16. Geoff Peach	963	31. Doreen Leverton	938
17. Len Diggins	962	32. Doris Day	937
18. Doug Haskell	961	33. Daphne	936
19. Chris Haskell	959	34. Mary Braithwaite	936
20. George Marskell	958	35. John Davis	930
21. Harvey Gocher	954	36. Edie Langley	927
22. Doris Gibson	950	37. Ken Bennett	924
23. Silvia Marskell	950	38. Mary Meaden	923
24. Jean Lane	949	39. Nora Davis	920
25. Ted Meaden	949	40. Daisy Noble	916

Bill Chorley

Bridge at The Roebuck

The standard of play throughout the past season has been remarkably high, ranging from what still stands as the record individual score of 192 (posted by Mary Meaden at the start of the season) through to sixteen consecutive winning hands from the partnership of Mike Walker and Sylv Day, though a few weeks later Mike was to feature in hands where he and his partner failed to score a single trick and this happened not once, but twice in the same evening!



Ahead of the commencement of the next whist season, in September, Bill Chorley will be holding a series of beginners evenings, at the Roebuck, so do check the Downsman diary dates for further details.

Very few players make all thirteen tricks in their first competitive game of bridge, but on 12th April, Nigel Beech achieved such a feat. For several weeks, Nigel, who has read up on the theory of the game, has been content to be a spectator but encouraged to sit in on a deal and, as declarer sitting north, he made thirteen tricks in spades! His partner on this memorable occasion was Doug Haskell (south) who, having made a positive response to Nigel's one spade opener, eventually called three spades which was duly passed all round. Defenders were Robin Radcliffe (west) and Bill Chorley (east) and in the play that followed, Nigel, with the minimum of advice, made thirteen tricks.

Earlier, on table two, Anne Read (south) partnering George Marskell (north) achieved thirteen tricks, though the bidding had stopped at the three level (no doubt to the relief of defenders Silvia Marskell (west) and Eric Turner (east)). Table one, meanwhile, had seen some spirited bidding and play, first with Bill Chorley (south) and Helen Goodwin (north), while later their opponents Trish Chorley (west) and Sally David (east) substantially reduced their deficit from eleven to three points by shrewd bidding and some inspired doubling of their opponents contracts.

The play on 26 April, too, was extremely competitive. Eric Turner (east) partnering George Marskell (west) made seven spades, though the contract was signed off at the five level, while earlier, Trish and Bill Chorley, sitting south and north, achieved a small slam in spades against Sally David (east) and Anne Reed (west). However, the best play of the evening was yet to come when Anne (with Doug Haskell sitting opposite) pressed on to 4 hearts, which Bill Chorley doubled (holding a singleton heart but with extremely strong spades, Bill assumed Trish would have something in hearts as she was not able to support his spades). Leading out with the ace of spades, the first trick was held by the opposition but declarer was able to rough the spade continuation and by very skilful play, landed the contract. A few hands later, Anne found herself in 3 clubs and when her opponents commenced a series of cross roughs, the contract seemed doomed to failure. Having lost the first four tricks, Anne held the crucial fifth trick, continuing to make the remainder and, thus, win the final rubber.

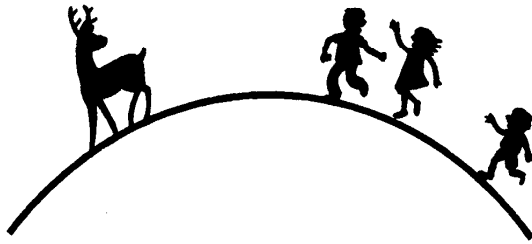
Bill Chorley

Unless otherwise notified, bridge will continue on Wednesday evenings, at the Roebuck, throughout the summer.

The Chase Nursery

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(formerly Sixpennies Pre-School)



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New Ideas

New Times

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+ an extra optional hour for lunch: 12:00 noon – 1:00pm*

Where qualified and experienced staff provide high quality pre-school education at a reasonable cost in a secure and happy environment. Where children can have fun, fulfil their potential, develop a love for learning and go on to school well prepared and confident.

... “Chasers”...

A parent and child session for children aged 2 years +

Thursday mornings: 9:30am – 12:00 noon

*A structured session, incorporating a **gym session** with our qualified pre-school gym and trampoline instructor.*

Telephone Julia Stokes (our Chairman) for further information

01725 552314

AN MP FOR WOODYATES ?

When Eric Stone told me that a Mr. Tim Palmer had been selected as the Conservative candidate for the Romsey parliamentary constituency, we both wondered whether it was the "Woodyates" Tim Palmer. The same evening, local TV news confirmed that our County councillor, and resident of West Woodyates, had indeed secured the candidacy for Romsey. After his election to the District Council, I thought that his political career was going backwards. But I soon discovered that it was his enthusiasm to tackle local issues and to question specific District Council policy that took him in this direction. I also remember his support for Alan Humphries, when Alan decided to sever his connections with the Liberal Democrats, following a dispute over a tree in Sixpenny Handley.

Somehow it seemed very strange to me that the man I used to pester, at Parish Council meetings, about reflective Rushmore Park road signs, unsalted icy roads and potholes in Copley Lane, should suddenly be thrust upon the national stage. But, having been successful twice at the local level, it was probably a natural progression to try for the biggest council of all, the House of Commons. Fate, and the fickle electorate of Romsey, soon put that ambition on hold.

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Use it or risk losing it!*

At the beginning of the campaign, Tim was described as a Hampshire farmer, and there is some suggestion that his failure to win the seat at Romsey may be attributed to the fact that he was, and still is, a Dorset farmer. The loss of Romsey was without doubt a setback for the Conservatives, especially on a night of local council election success. But, set against a local candidate, and the anomalies thrown up by tactical voting, it is clear that he was given an enormous task to hold on to the seat. The comment by the Prime Minister, at Question Time, that it was "an irresponsible campaign", was specifically designed to rub salt into Conservative wounds, but it did a great injustice to the man who has served this particular community of ours well.

Between now and the next General Election, Tim should have all the time he needs to woo the people of Romsey. And one day, who knows, there may yet be a Member of Parliament from Woodyates.

Ian Davies

SIXPENNY HANDLEY CRICKET CLUB

Review

Last season saw the Cricket Club promoted to the First Division of the Ranston Evening league, and the friendly matches played on Sundays were viewed as a great success. There was also moderate success in the Stalbridge Indoor Six-A-Side league over the winter period. At the Annual Dinner, awards for best batsman, best bowler and best all-rounder were given to Simon Ellingham, Alan Bennett and Clive Spendley respectively. Juli Spendley was presented with the “member of the year” award for her outstanding work for the Club, which included all the effort needed to secure our award from the Lottery.

We were very sorry to lose Trevor Edwards, one of our key players, who had scored many hundreds of runs for the Club. Trevor was also our Junior Coach, and we were very grateful for his contribution to coaching over the last few years.

Although the Cricket Season started officially in April, the bad weather meant that we played our first game on the May Day Bank Holiday weekend. It was very heartening to see the participation of so many youngsters, the involvement of whom will mean a brighter future for the Club. It is, and always has been, a deliberate policy of the Club to encourage people of any age, gender and ability to join our membership. Fixtures of both the Sunday and Wednesday leagues are included with this article, and for more information about membership, please contact the Secretary, Juli Spendley on 01-202-822244.

Junior Coaching

The departure of Trevor Edwards has meant that we are now without a Junior Coach, but we are hoping to send a senior player on a coaching course this autumn to gain the necessary qualifications. Unfortunately, we are not allowed to coach junior members without a qualified instructor, but we will be making arrangements for the juniors to go to Pimperne on Tuesday nights and Blandford on Saturday mornings as demand requires. Please contact Ivor Potter on 552930 or Neil Bowes on 552416 for more information about coaching.

Awards For All

We were very lucky last year to receive a lump sum from the National Lottery “Awards For All” scheme. The aim of the award was for the Club to improve cricketing skills at all levels and encourage new members. The Club has now acquired a new Mobile Net Cage, that can be used anywhere on the Cricket pitch, a Junior Starter Kit, new wall and roof nets and new net matting. We hope that these acquisitions will inspire old and new members alike to attend net practice, which it is anticipated will take place on Thursdays at 6.30pm, once the nets have been erected.

Evening League Cricket

Success has been 100% so far in the Evening League. Both Cup and League games have been won under the captaincy of Alan Bennett.

Sunday League Cricket

In the first match of the season, Sixpenny Handley faired badly against a superior Wilton side. Wilton scored a creditable 152 runs for 8 wickets, while Sixpenny Handley were all out for 71.

The next match against Dewlish was declared drawn, when continuous thunderstorms prevented any further play. At the declaration, Dewlish had scored 95 runs for 8 wickets.

The Club had a more successful game against the Commoners. By the end of the allotted forty overs, Sixpenny Handley had reached 221 runs for 7 wickets. Andy Wright carried his bat throughout the innings and passed the 100 mark on the very last ball. In response, the Commoners started slowly and were pegged back by some accurate bowling. Although the run rate increased towards the end, they were losing wickets and were all out for 151 runs. Adam Fradgley bowled particularly well, returning figures of 4 wickets for 6 runs. He was deservedly accorded the title of "Man of the Match".

The President

Fixtures

Sunday fixtures start at 2:30pm, Midweek fixtures at 6:30pm (except Cup Final)

Team	Date	Opposition	Venue
Sunday	04-Jun	Pimperne	Away
Midweek	07-Jun	Stalbridge	Away
Sunday	11-Jun	Rockbourne	Home

Scout Sunday Fair

Sunday 11 June 2.30pm

At 1st Woodcutts Scout Headquarters

Cream teas - Cakes - Plants

Raffle

Fun games for all the family

Scout demonstrations

**There will be transport available from
Sheasby Close and outside "The Roebuck" from 2.30pm.**

Midweek	21-Jun	Gillingham	Away
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Midsummer Street Fayre and Carnival 2000

**The 5th Annual Midsummer Street Fayre and Carnival
will take place on
Saturday 17th June 2000.**

**STALLS GAMES RAFFLE
TOMBOLA CRAFTS
IMPS BAND
FACE PAINTING GLASS BLOWING
CAR BOOT SALE**

Children's Annual Treasure Hunt

The Children's Treasure Hunt will take place on Sunday 11th June starting at 11 am and ending at 1 pm, opposite the Roebuck. This event is open to all children under 15 years. Sweets for all entrants. Entry free.
Prizes will be awarded at 5.15 on Carnival Day.

Carnival Day 17th June 2000

Children's Fancy Dress - Free entry

Class A Age 6 years and under
Class B Age 7 years to 10 years
Class C Age 11 years to 15 years

Family Pet Contest - Free Entry

Class 1 Pet most like it's owner
Class 2 Longest dog - Tip of nose to tip of tail
Class 3 Dog in fancy dress
Class 4 Any other pet in fancy dress

Local groups are invited to take up stall space to raise funds for their own organisations for the usual 10% of takings.

Please complete and return booking form by 15th June.

There will also be space available for a Car Boot Sale at £5 per car or £7 for a car and trailer or van. There will be a £1 discount for local car booters who book and pay before Friday 16th June 2000.

Midsummer Street Fayre and Carnival 2000

Carnival Day - Programme of Events

12:00noon	High street closes for setting up.
1:00pm	Official starting time
2:00pm	Imp Band Entertain
3:00pm	Crowning Ceremony
3:15pm	Fancy Dress Contest
3:30pm	Family Pet Contest
4:00pm	Floats assemble at Spots Green for judging
4:15pm	Carnival Parade moves off along Dean Lane, up the High Street and down Common Lane to Village hall car park.
5:00pm	Charity Auction
5:15pm	Prize Giving
5:30pm	Raffle Drawn
7:00pm	High Street re-opens to traffic

All timings are approximate and subject to prevailing conditions.

Musical entertainment will be from the Godfrey J Turner record/CD collection

Carnival Bingo

The Carnival Bingo will take place on Monday 19th June 2000 in the Village Hall.
Doors open 6.45 pm. Eyes down 7.30 pm

I am trying to find more prizes for the Carnival tombola stall, the raffle, Carnival bingo and the charity auction. If you can help with anything, no matter how large or small, I would be most grateful. Items can be delivered to me at home or I can arrange collection of larger items.

My prize collection boxes are now open at home.

Proceeds from this years Carnival will go to the
1st Woodcutts Scout Group and the Village Hall Refurbishment Fund.

Time Capsule

The time capsule will be laid down later this millennium year when all the contents are available.

Godfrey J Turner
Chairman SHEDDS

LOCAL GROUP STALL SPACE BOOKING FORM

Name of Group: _____

We would like to have a stall space at the Street Fayre on the 17th June.
We agree to pay 10% of our takings to the SHEDDS Carnival fund.

Signature: _____

Position in Organisation: _____

Return by 15th June 2000

CAR BOOT SALE ADVANCE BOOKING FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

I would like to have a Boot Sale space at the Street Fayre on 17th June.

I enclose £.....as payment

Signature: _____

Return form no later than 16th June 2000

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News and Information

NATIONAL
FEDERATION
OF WOMEN'S
INSTITUTES

Report for April and May 2000.

The **April** open meeting at Handley was well attended by members and guests, when Mr J Cowley from Stalbridge gave a most interesting and enlightening talk on 'Heirlooms in Wood'. He brought some beautiful items and many sample patterns of various woods used in the making of these things. There was also an exhibition of member's own heirlooms, which Mr Cowley examined and discussed with members. He was thanked by Nancy Raban-Williams.

The report on the Spring Council meeting held this year at Poole Art Centre Towngate Theatre was given by Win Judd. A team of four members recently took part in the Bowls Club Quiz and members also helped at the Village Hall Jumble Sale.

A member had just celebrated her Golden Wedding Anniversary and Congratulations were sent to her and her husband.

Flower of the Month was won by Doreen Leverton.

At the **May** meeting, resolutions for the 'National 2000' TGM Meeting at Wembley were discussed and voted upon, ready for the delegate who will attend.

The talk on the 'Phone in Nurse'. NHS Direct Service was given by Chris and Elaine, members of that service - it was most helpful and interesting. They were thanked by Jean Harris.

Thanks also to members who took part in the recent village clean up.

A very successful plant and cake stall has been held and proceeds from that and the Bring and Buy sale at this meeting will be given to help support the women of Kenya in the effort to get a clean water supply. Members have recently enjoyed our 78th birthday meal at a local hotel.

Another evening walk has been suggested for June 26th, this time, around Wilton, with supper afterwards.

A Group outing to a seaside town is being organised for Saturday August 5th - details later.

The festival 'Robes of Innocence' is to be held at Maiden Newton on June 2nd if members wish to visit.

Diaries and Calendars for 2001 must be ordered now. The Spring Group Meeting was held at Handley on Wednesday May 24th.

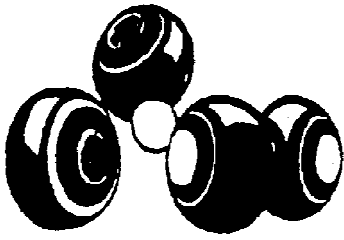
The flower of the month was won by Norah North.

The business finished, everyone enjoyed a buffet supper, provided by the committee.

The next meeting is on June 12th, when Mrs E Daswell a 'lady brewer' will be speaking - and the competition to be for a 'Wartime Recipe'.

Dates of next meetings	June 12 th
	July 10 th

Win Judd



Sixpenny Handley Bowls Club

On April 1st, not only did we have another fantastic Quiz Evening, but we were also presented with our Shield for winning Division Four of the Blackmore Vale Short Mat League. Congratulations to the players who had this success - Tony Groves, Ivor Hunt, Gordon Martin, Derry Goddard, Maxine Keech, Phyl Chown and two reserves - Colin

Chambers and Bob Keech.

Our nearest neighbours, Pimperne, were second and both teams gain promotion for next season. Due to our success, a second team is to be entered this season, so keep watching the Blackmore Vale magazine for the results.

Colin Chambers is also to be congratulated for winning the Dorset Short Mat National Singles Championship recently and he and Gordon Martin reached the semi-finals of the pairs.

The Green opened on 15th April, which turned out to be one of the worst days in the month. A few brave players did put up a few bowls and I believe some non-members were intending to come along. There are often matches on Sunday afternoons, also on Wednesday evenings from 6 pm and anyone interested is welcome to come along and have a go.

Matches have now started and so far we have won three - all at home. We are not doing so well away on the grass, but hopefully this will improve as the season progresses. The club is now a member of the new Wiltshire League; this is a mixed league and enables our lady members to play competitive bowls. So far we have played two matches, losing one and winning one.

The men have played three matches in the Dorset League and have drawn one and lost two.

June 1st	Thu	Wilton (WMTL)	H	July 5th	Wed	Verwood (F)	A
June 4th	Sun	Tisbury (WMTL)	A	July 6th	Thu	East Anglian Tourists (F)	H
June 5th	Mon	Gillingham A (DL)	A	July 8th	Sat	Cranborne (F)	A
June 7th	Wed	Gillingham (F)	H	July 9th	Sun	Fordingbridge (F)	H
June 8th	Thu	Salisbury BC (WMTL)	H	July 10th	Mon	Shaftesbury 'B' (DL)	H
June 11th	Sun	Cranborne (F)	H	July 11th	Tue	Victoria BC (WMTL)	A
June 12th	Mon	Blandford (DL)	H	July 12th	Wed	Club Evening	
June 14th	Wed	Club Evening		July 16th	Sun	Three Legged Cross (F)	H
June 19th	Mon	Wessex 'C' (DL)	H	July 17th	Mon	Gillingham 'A' (DL)	H
June 20th	Tue	Amesbury (WMTL)	H	July 18th	Tue	Amesbury (WMTL)	A
June 21st	Wed	Club Evening		July 19th	Wed	Club Evening	
June 25th	Sun	Club Triple Knockout		July 23rd	Sun	Flt Refuelling (F)	H
June 27th	Tue	Flt Refuelling (Short Mat)	A	July 24th	Mon	Blandford 'B' (DL)	A
June 28th	Wed	Club Evening		July 25th	Tue	Alderbury (WMTL)	A
July 1st	Sat	Salisbury Ladies (F)	A	July 26th	Wed	Club Evening	
July 2nd	Sun	Lyndhurst (F)	A	July 30th	Sun	Mere (F)	H
July 3rd	Mon	Ferndown 'B' (DL)	A				

Dorset at War

Monday, September the 30th, 1940, was much like any other day of late for the people of Sherborne. The day had dawned fair, with only a light breeze but there were large amounts of scattered cloud, through which only occasional glimpses of blue sky could be seen. But all in all, most people regarded it as a pleasant early autumn day and few would have had any misgivings about living in this pleasant part of the Dorset, despite their proximity to the south coast. Naturally, the worry of a possible invasion was still uppermost in peoples minds, but with the heartening news of Fighter Command's stubborn resistance to everything that the Luftwaffe could throw at it must have been quietly reassuring.

Nevertheless, the daily news bulletins reporting heavy bombing attacks on London and other major cities throughout the land was particularly alarming and must have been especially so for the hundreds of children that had been evacuated from the cities to the relative safety of the countryside but whose parents had had to remain behind. Serviceman and civilian were together in the front line of the enemy's fire.

Such had been the seriousness of the situation that three weeks earlier, on the 7th, the Bournemouth Garrison (along with other garrisons based in the south) had been ordered to reinforce all coastal defence positions. By the evening of that day, condition Cromwell had been signalled to the garrison commanders, thus warning them that enemy forces would likely be ashore within the next twelve hours.

For the next twelve days, the garrisons were held at this high state of readiness before it was assessed that the pendulum had swung once more towards the margins of safety. During this time, Hitler had been obliged to cancel the warning order to his forces to begin the invasion on no less than three occasions, principally because the confident predictions by Herman GÖring, the head of the Luftwaffe, that Fighter Command would be swept aside had not materialised. With the skies above the Channel still not secured, Hitler's ambitious plans were being frustrated at every turn.

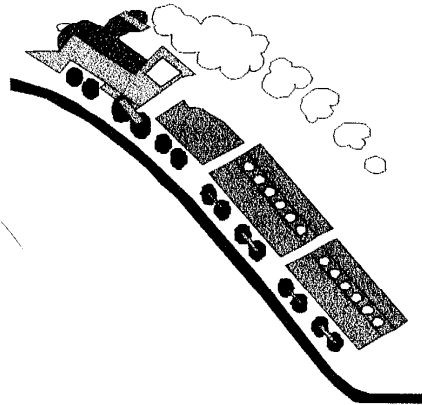
And so it came to pass that the Battle continued to be dominated by the Royal Air Force, though still at a dreadfully high cost in pilots and material. During this fateful September, the Warmwell squadrons alone lost at least ten Spitfires (only one squadron was actually resident, namely 152 Squadron, while 609 Squadron continued to send aircraft and pilots on a daily basis from their permanent base at Middle Wallop), the majority of these casualties coming in the second half of the month.

Coming then to the day that would be etched in the memories of many Sherborne people, Fighter Command had already been called upon to respond to two medium sized raids, aimed at the capital twixt 9 and 10 o'clock. Despite their fatigue, the fighter pilots rose magnificently to the challenge and neither raid was able to reach its destination. Then, before midday, the radar plotting rooms were warning of enemy formations gathering over Cherbourg and heading towards the Dorset coast. Again, Fighter Command's response was so effective that the raiders were forced to turn about before reaching the coast, though escorting Me 109s did manage to fight a stiff rear guard action off Bournemouth, sending down two Hurricanes from 56 Squadron which since early September had been operating from Boscombe Down.

(To be continued) *Bill Chorley*

Bright Sparks

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**Your Local Nursery School.
2 - 5 year olds**

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**Tuesday and Fridays; all day sessions -9.15am to 2.45pm
4 year olds grant registered.**

**Our friendly qualified and well experienced team welcomes you to
our homely, stimulating and secure environment.
Every child is an individual with differing needs, abilities and
potential. We are sensitive in responding to those needs.**

**Our well planned and structured activities can enhance your child's
full social, intellectual, emotional,
physical and creativity development.**

**For a prospectus or to arrange a visit,
please call us during opening times.**

Your Child's Well Being Is Paramount.

We look forward to seeing you.

Holiday Play Schemes Also Available.

Reproduced from the Christchurch Times 9th December 1939

Somewhere on the high seas Able Seaman Frederick George Hayter - Postman Hayter of Christchurch a few months ago - continues his duties on board the merchant ship Stonepool, unaware that he is hailed at home as one of the war's latest heroes.

Last Saturday it was announced in the London Gazette that he had been awarded the medal of the O.B.E. for "the courage and skill" with which he defended his ship against the attack by a "U Boat Pirate"

His epic part in the first straight fight of the war between armed merchantman and a U-boat will be recorded in the glowing annals of British seamanship in time of war.

Hayter is a gunlayer aboard the Stonepool a ship of "Ropner's Navy." The Stonepool is owned by Sir R. Ropner of Hartlepool and it is his job to protect the vessel against the German submarine menace. When the Stonepool sighted a U-boat he engaged the enemy in a heated gun duel, and so good was his shooting that the submarine was hit and damaged. The Stonepool was also holed above the waterline during the engagement.

The master of the ship, Capt. Albert Angel White, has also received the O.B.E.

Even the cold terms of the official report detracts nothing from this stirring tale of British bravery at sea:-

"On sighting a U-boat," it states, "the Stonepool manned her guns in about two minutes and exchanged shot for shot with the enemy, with guns of a similar calibre, at a fair rate of fire.

The shooting was good, and the fifteenth shot may well have hit or damaged the U-boat, whose thirteenth or fourteenth shot holed the Stonepool two feet above the water-line.

By his resolute and skilful action, the master saved his ship. The discipline was excellent and the gunlayer and the gun crew did well"

FIRST POSTAL MAN FOR WAR HONOURS.

At home the news is acclaimed by Hayter's many friends in Christchurch as the first member of the Christchurch and Bournemouth district postal service to receive war honours. Most delighted of all is Mrs Hayter; who has been literally overwhelmed by the congratulations of neighbours.

A QUIET EASY-GOING, OLD STICK.

She was busy preparing the children for school when a "Christchurch Times" representative called at her home. "My husband's such, a quiet easy going old stick, I can't understand how he came to do it." she said. "Of course we are all terribly proud of

him, but I am sure that it is the last thing he wants - he is so modest. He served right through the last war, but he would never tell me a thing about it. I really should know nothing about this officially, but when the letter came from the Admiralty I opened it, in case it had to be mailed on. Imagine my surprise when neighbours came in to tell me that the papers were telling the whole story of the Stonepool and that my husband had been awarded the O.B.E. I just would not believe it until I read the letter from the Admiralty."

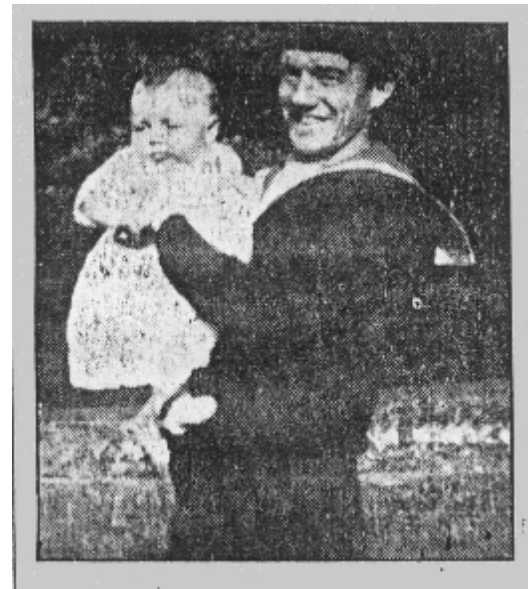
ADMIRALTY LETTER

The letter from the Admiralty announcing the award, which will be a treasured possession in the Hayters' home, reads as follows:-

"Sir, - I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to inform you that they have learned with great satisfaction that on the recommendation of the Admiralty, the Prime Minister has obtained the King's approval of the award to you of the Medal of the Order of the British Empire, Civil Division (for Meritorious Services) for the courage and skill with which, as gunlayer of the Stonepool you helped save your ship from destruction by the enemy. This award will appear in the London Gazette of today and in the general Press tomorrow. A copy of this letter has been sent to the owners.

Submitted by Zoe Harris who tells me that the baby in the picture now lives in Sixpenny Handley.

This photo is a copy of a copy of a 1939 newspaper



so my apologies if the re-production is not very clear. Ed.

Know your football teams? Try this!

Replace the stars with team names. (Answer next issue)

The sun shone ***** the day we set sail for the ***** aboard an ancient wooden ship which had a **** riddled with holes and a ***** made up of Scots, Welshmen and others of the ***** race. They were a rowdy bunch and did in fact ***** furniture after a heavy session. The exception was the cabin boy whose job it was to ***** the boilers. He won our ***** with his honest endeavour to conquer his lack of learning by practising his ***** alone as if sent to *****. On the whole the sea *** was good for the family and did my ***** as she had not had a holiday ***** too long. It certainly did her ***** lot of good. At last we docked at ***** which had just been built and at once headed for the fabled residence of Hawaii's monarch. It was inhabited by the ***** ** *** ***** and was looked after by forest ***** dressed in ***** green, who greeted us with a friendly *****. We saw the hills where the ***** still roamed freely and where the natives **** their dead. For tea each night we had ***** cakes, ***** buns and some ***** which was best left alone.

Submitted by Len Vincent from Chester - My Dad!

**PENTRIDGE MILLENNIUM MAP
and other millennium matters**

Following a daunting exercise in form-filling by Pru Barnes, Richard Ferguson and Iris David, and Ron Woods, The Millennium Festival Awards for All Committee has awarded a grant of £2392 to Pentridge Village Hall Committee from the National Lotteries Charity Board.

This grant has been made as contribution towards production of a watercolour map of Pentridge. This will be commissioned from local artist, Judith Gillespie Smith. Copies will be mounted for display in the village hall and St. Rumbolds church and will be made available as prints for anyone who would like to keep one at a price of £5 per copy.

In addition the grant will contribute towards the cost of producing a montage of ceramic tiles in the village hall. These will be painted individually by children and others with Charlotte Montefiore. Contributions of £5 per child please. Charlotte will be contacting children when she has time.

The map and tiles will be based on the information already supplied in last year's questionnaire. We will also need recent photos of individual houses and Judith will be contacting everyone to ask if they can provide anything and if not to arrange for photographs to be taken.

The grant also includes a contribution towards arranging an exhibition party in the village hall when these and other works of art celebrating Pentridge at the millennium can be displayed. Jane King has completed a wonderful series of paintings of Pentridge scenes over the last year and Margaret Owen has written her memoirs of the village (not scandalous of course!)



Help save a life - Support *raceforlife*



raceforlife is a national series of fundraising 5km walks or runs exclusively for women of all ages and fitness abilities organised by Imperial Cancer Research Fund. It is an opportunity for women to get together and raise money for Imperial Cancer Research Fund's pioneering research into cancers that affect women.

Since the first race in London's Battersea Park in 1994, over 180,000 women have supported *raceforlife*, raising over £7 million.

In 2000, *raceforlife* is being staged in 61 towns and cities throughout England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Why not join the expected 120,000 women around the UK who will run, jog or walk *raceforlife* in 2000.

Your nearest *raceforlife* event is taking place in Bournemouth at 11.00am on Sunday 25th June 2000 (a round-trip between Bournemouth Pier and Boscombe Pier).

For more information, or to register for the race, please contact 08705 134 314, or check out their website at www.icnet.uk/raceforlife.

If you are unable to take part in the *raceforlife*, but would like to donate funds for the charity, I will be running in Bournemouth on 25th June, and maybe you could sponsor me? I have only recently started training for this run, and am not very fit, but I'm determined to raise as much money for Imperial Cancer Research as I possibly can. I have a personal incentive for taking part, as my Mum is seriously ill with cancer, and funds for research are desperately needed. If you would like to sponsor me, or make a donation, please phone me on **01725 552 479** and ask for **Jackie**. Anything you can offer may help to save a life!

RICHARD T. ADLEM

MONUMENTAL MASON - FUNERAL CONSULTANT

MEMORIALS IN:-

GRANITE, STONE & MARBLE

PHONE HANDLEY 552496 AT ANY TIME



Sixpenny Handley Homewatch

URGENT POLICE WARNING

Dorset Police are warning everyone about a spate of “Distraction Thefts” throughout North-East Dorset in recent weeks.

The criminals operate in pairs, one calling at the front door to distract the occupier, while the accomplice

enters the property unseen to steal valuables.

The distraction stories vary but in recent weeks versions used within 15 miles of Sixpenny Handley have included:

- * There is an injured cat in your garden, please come and see
- * Can I have a drink of water
- * Did you know there is a tile off your roof round the back
- * I have lost my dog and think it may be in your garden, can we look for it

Reported descriptions indicate that several “pairs” are operating in our area.

BE VERY CAUTIOUS OF ANY STRANGER TRYING TO LURE YOU OUT OF YOUR HOME, OR KEEPING YOU TALKING AT THE DOOR WHILST SOMEONE MAY BE BREAKING IN ELSEWHERE.

If you do suspect distraction thieves are operating near you, call the police on 999 immediately and then tell your local Homewatch Co-ordinator.

Handley Crime Figures

The table shows the number of reported crimes in the Sixpenny Handley area from 1 March to 30 April 2000. Figures for the same period last year are also shown.

Sixpenny Handley: Reported Crimes 1/3/00 to 30/4/00

Type of Crime	Incidents Reported	Same period last year
Dwelling Burglaries	5	0
Non-dwelling Burglaries (includes sheds and garages)	0	4
Thefts of and from vehicles	1	1
Criminal Damage	0	3
Totals	6	8

New Homewatch Signs

Six new or replacement Homewatch signs have gone up in and around the village. Even though they were put up by Homewatch volunteers, they still cost over £120. This sum was taken from Homewatch funds raised at last summer’s village barbecue, so a big thank you to all who supported the event.

FREE BOOKS FOR HANDLEY SCHOOL



Do you read **THE SUN**?
Do you read **THE TIMES**?
Do you buy **WALKERS CRISPS**?



If so, then please will you save the Tokens for
FREE BOOKS FOR SCHOOLS?

Last year, Handley First School joined the scheme and managed to get a really worthwhile number of free, new books.

Will you help them do even better this year, please?

Tokens can be handed in to Styles, at the School, or at the Vicarage.

Please don't throw money away!

CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU AT SIXPENNY HANDLEY SURGERY

Tuesdays 9:30am – 12:00 noon

Christine Pacey

**NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE OR WHAT YOUR ENQUIRY IS
WE WILL TRY AND HELP**

COST? – Free

FOR YOU?

For everyone, regardless of class, race, sex, sexuality, culture, income or benefits.

- We will not tell anyone unless you say so
- We don't judge or blame
- We will not be influenced by outside interests or views
- Financial Problems
- Preliminary Debt Counselling
- Employment Issues
- Housing Related Problems
- Family Breakdown
- Issues relating to being a Carer
- Issues related to Community Care



Domiciliary appointments available

Woodcutts Again --May 2000

Friday 5th May 2000 --It is 5:10 a.m. and I am sitting at the kitchen table writing. Why, you may ask, so early in the morning? It is not really light yet but this does not stop the birds. I awoke some twenty minutes ago and thought whatever has woken me? I surfaced and realised I was listening to **THE DAWN CHORUS**, a great cacophony of sound, individually they may be melodious but all together they certainly are not. Many writers have attempted to describe this over the centuries; all I can say is, to me it is like a large symphony orchestra warming up. The sounds have now been somewhat overtaken by the noise of the kettle boiling for my first of many cups of tea, to bring me to terms with starting a new day. Again a subject raised by many authors of the past, so I will refrain. Although I do take the advice of one great author, Laurence Sterne, writer of *Tristram Shandy*, in which Tristram himself is portrayed as an author and reflects that there are many ways of writing, the best as far as he is concerned is to prepare the first line thoroughly and pray that the rest will follow. Actually this is not bad advice, as many a letter writer will vouch. If you have something to say it will out, it is the getting started that matters. That is, I suppose, why I am sitting in the kitchen at 5:30a.m.

I've started, unfortunately for you, you may think but I will continue anyway.

.....

My apologies, I have just restarted, the kettle boiled and I made tea. At the same time I let out Tess, our Border Terrier, to see her puppies, which are being gradually weaned. At the same time letting the chickens out, to start what I hope will be another busy day for them.

Although it is hardly 5:40a.m. the chorus's crescendo is over for the day. Never mind there will be another tomorrow, I wonder if I will hear that one?

I would make certain I did if I could be sure of one participant that even I can recognise, the cuckoo! Several people have assured me they have heard one, this includes Ron Wood, the vicar, so they are about. In fact they were heard in the Purbecks almost four weeks ago, followed by hearings in Bere Regis, Wimborne and progressively north to Wimborne St. Giles but as yet not at Woodcutts. They are late if the old country rhyme is true:-

The cuckoo comes in April.
It sings its' song in May,
In the middle of June it changes its' tune
And July it flies away.

.....

Sorry again, another delay, I have just been outside to read the maximum and minimum thermometer. (This style of writing i.e. gappy, is the result of reading *Tristram Shandy*, my advice to anybody who has not read it, don't try.) The temperature appears quite low because of a strong E.N.E. wind blowing; the reading is in fact 5°C or in old money 41°F, chilly enough for May, especially bearing in mind global warming. I sometimes think we must be missing out; but if you take into account the three laws of conservation, namely:-

1. Matter can neither be created nor destroyed.
2. Matter's constituent parts will always remain the same even if distribution varies.
3. Energy can neither be created nor destroyed.

If it is 7°C hotter in parts of India than expected, it must be correspondingly colder elsewhere, or if there is a severe drought in Ethiopia then more rain falls in the U.K. Certainly it did in the month of April, when approximately three times the anticipated

amount fell. That was a lot by anyone's standards.

Last time I wrote almost two months ago, it seemed that everything would be early this year, but because of keen Easterly winds, high rainfall and mediocre temperatures nature appeared to stand still until the last week of April, when growth exploded from everywhere. Suddenly the horse chestnut, sycamore, Sorbus spp. and even the oaks were in full leaf but not the ash, so we are to have a dry summer at least, that is if there is any truth in the old country saying:

The oak before the ash we'll only get a splash,

The ash before the oak we'll surely get a soak.

So this summer when cricket, tennis, bowls, picnics and barbecues are rained off, grin and bear it, we really are having a dry summer, the oak trees said so.

You have got to have faith, which reminds me of a time some forty years ago, when I was just one of a gang of a dozen or so workers "opening and cutting" in the hop gardens at Selborne in Hampshire. It was a beautiful spring afternoon, until the sky became black with thunder clouds, suddenly the heavens opened and we all ran for cover. Luckily there was a large barn at the edge of the hop garden, where the last year's calves were housed and at that moment Sim the stockman was giving them their afternoon feed. He looked up to see twelve very wet men in their shirtsleeves, rushing in. With a big grin on his face he said, "No need to run chaps, I've heard the forecast, it's going to be a dry afternoon".

So forty years ago men were complaining about the weather, I suppose four hundred years ago men were complaining about the weather, or even four thousand years ago and I suppose they always will; particularly farmers, gardeners and holiday makers. The last month (April 2000) was one of the wettest in the 300 hundred years that records have been kept, along with the corresponding months in 1999, 1818 and 1782, I remember 1999 but not the other two.

What will all this water mean? Well, hopefully no water restrictions this summer, if the respective companies have been able to save some of it; but more importantly, what will it do to plant growth? Plants generally 'flower' and fruit naturally at their best when slightly under stress. Rubbish! you may say, but this is the case. The reason for flowering is as a precursor for seeding, a plant will not put all its energies into producing seed if it thinks it will live forever it will simply produce more and more branches, leaves and roots with only the occasional flower, resulting in few fruits and subsequent seeds.

This of course is borne out by the need to prune and deadhead. If growth conditions are good, i.e. warm temperatures, ample water and sufficient nutrients are available, potatoes will produce good crops of tubers but will be late flowering, this you will say is marvellous but would you say the same about your dahlias. No, you must control the plants in the garden, deleaf, dead head, summer prune, let in the light and air, put those plants under stress without nature doing it for you with disease, overcrowding and competition.

Away from the garden, I have found one of the loveliest flowers I have seen in the wild. Out walking, about a month ago, poking my nose into hedgerows as is my usual wont, I saw a group of small pale green leaves I did not recognise, growing under a hazel bush. At first there appeared to be only leaves but on closer inspection, I discovered flower stems with tiny blooms, but as they were also pale green in colour and in the shade of the hedge they weren't immediately noticeable. On getting onto my hands and knees, the inflorescences were clearly visible; each flower stem terminated in five, delicate flower heads four mounted in a square, as are the four faces of a church clock in a square tower. The fifth mounted above the other four and pointing vertically upward. Each flower about 6mm across consisting of four petals, the same light green as the long stalked, 2-3 lobed leaves,

with bright, yellow anthers protruding. This delightful little flower I identified as Moschatel, Townhall Clock or the Five Faced Bishop, (ADOXA MOSCHATELLINA), the only genus and species of the family, a native of this country but found as far afield as the Himalayas and N. America. Although apparently widespread but local in the U.K., I had never seen it before, nor had Win Kirby who has lived all her life some 400m from where it was found. This find, in part makes up for some absentees, the campion family. Where are the Ragged Robbins and Red Campions? The only common red wildflower at present is Herb Robert, all others sadly missing. Perhaps the result of susceptibility to agricultural herbicides. On a happier note, Cowslips appear to be making a comeback in the area; this is confirmed by Win Kirby's observations. On this cheerful note we must say Thank You Lord for a wonderful world, a world You have left in our hands, may we treat it better in the future than we have in the past.

Ted Cox 10/5/00

Sixpenny Handley First School

Summer Fun Evening & Barbecue

To be held in the school grounds on **Friday 23rd June 2000**

from **5.30pm - 8.00pm**

Please do come along and enjoy a little entertainment by the children,
followed by our annual summer fundraising event.

Cake Stalls,



Tombola,

Children's games & lots lots more!

Raffle,

All welcome.

Plants,



Proceeds towards school funds





**Problems with roads and pavements, street lighting or
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If you're in the mood
for some damn good food
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while you're there have a jar

For the finest food in Cranborne Chase
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have we got a choice for you

All those families with children too
Don't you worry we'll cater for you
With darts, pool table, juke box too
This really must be the place for you

Oh beg my pardon
I forgot the Beer garden!

Telephone: 01725 552230

OXFORD

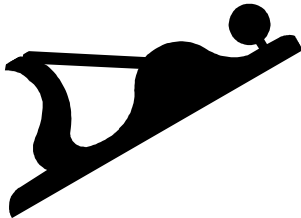
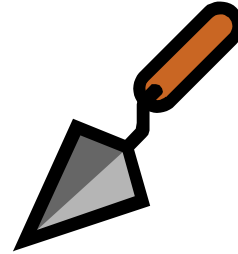
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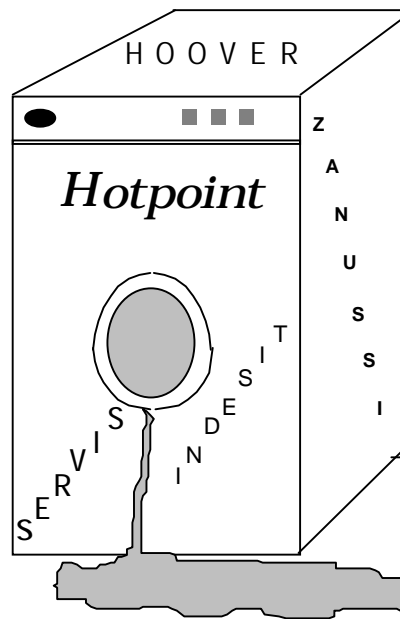
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June & July 2000

ST MARY'S	ST ANDREW'S	ST RUMBOLD'S
-----------	-------------	--------------

June 4th Sunday after

9:30 Family Worship 6:00 Holy Communion
--

11:15 Morning Prayer & Holy Communion
--

June 11th Pentecost

10:30 Pentecost Praise	9:30 Holy Communion
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June 18th Trinity Sunday

9:30 Holy Communion 6:00 Evensong

11:15 Morning Prayer

June 25th Sunday after

9:30 Holy Communion	8:30 Morning Prayer	11:15 Family Service
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July 2nd Second Sunday after Trinity

9:30 Family Worship 6:00 Holy Communion
--

11:15 Morning Prayer & Holy Communion
--

July 9th Third Sunday after Trinity

10:30 Morning Prayer	9:30 Holy Communion
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July 16th Fourth Sunday after Trinity

9:30 Holy Communion 6:00 Evensong

11:15 Morning Prayer

July 23rd Fifth Sunday after Trinity

9:30 Holy Communion	8:30 Holy Communion	11:15 Family Service
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July 30th Sixth Sunday after Trinity

9:30 Holy Communion 6:00 Sunday Night Live!
--

August 6th Seventh Sunday after Trinity

9:30 Holy Communion 6:00 Holy Communion
--

11:15 Morning Prayer & Holy Communion
--

SIXPENNY HANDLEY COOKBOOK

We are hoping to produce a SIXPENNY HANDLEY COOKBOOK, with recipes covering starters, main courses and puddings submitted by local people. Would you be interested in letting us have a recipe for inclusion in the Cookbook? The recipe could either be a family one, or a local one, or just one that you particularly like.

Please would you ring **Sheila Smith** on 552149 to get more information, or just send her your recipe at 25 Paddock Close with your name and telephone number on it.

Michael Churchill

Donations in memory of Michael Churchill amounted to an impressive £900.55 for the surgery, and a further £50 for St Mary’s Church. The surgery have thanked Michael’s family, and say they are going to buy wheelchairs and zimmer frames, which would have amused Michael, I’m sure. And everyone at St Mary’s thanks the family for their generosity, too.



The CCF offer voluntary support to those who need it, within the Cranborne Chase villages.

In the form of :-

- Transport to the Surgery, Dentist, etc, with an appropriate contribution from the user of 30p per mile, to cover petrol costs.
- Collection of prescriptions - local shopping for the house bound.
- Emergency garden care - child sitting - dog walking.
- We hold regular Social Day Centres, at Sixpenny Handley Village Hall.

- And weekly Coffee Mornings at the back bar of the **Roebuck Inn, Sixpenny Handley.**
Thursday mornings 10: 30am- 12 midday.
 So come along and make new friends, or play cards.

**For any information concerning
 Chase Community Friends,
 Please contact CCF co-ordinator,
 Margaret Pendrigh on 01725 552510.
 New volunteers always most welcome.**

PARISH DIARY

DATE	FUNCTION	PAGE	DATE	FUNCTION	PAGE
Jun-01	Bowls Club Home Match	2	Jul-03	Tennis Coaching all ages	1
Jun-01	Chase Community Friends	3	Jul-05	Cricket Club Home Match	1
Jun-05	Tennis Coaching all ages	1	Jul-05	Tennis Coaching adults	1
Jun-07	Bowls Club Home Match	2	Jul-06	Bowls Club Home Match	2
Jun-07	Tennis Coaching adults	1	Jul-06	Chase Community Friends	3
Jun-08	Bowls Club Home Match	2	Jul-06	Tennis Members Evening	1
Jun-08	Chase Community Friends	3	Jul-09	Cricket Club Home Match	1
Jun-08	Tennis Members Evening	1	Jul-09	Bowls Club Home Match	2
Jun-11	Cricket Club Home Match	1	Jul-10	W.I. Meeting	2
Jun-11	Scout Sunday Fair	1	Jul-10	Bowls Club Home Match	2
Jun-11	Treasure Hunt	2	Jul-10	Tennis Coaching all ages	1
Jun-11	Bowls Club Home Match	2	Jul-12	The Wednesday Club	0
Jun-12	W.I. Meeting	2	Jul-12	Cricket Club Home Match	1
Jun-12	Tennis Coaching all ages	1	Jul-12	Bowls Club Evening	2
Jun-14	The Wednesday Club	0	Jul-12	Tennis Coaching adults	1
Jun-14	Bowls Club Evening	2	Jul-13	Chase Community Friends	3
Jun-14	Tennis Coaching adults	1	Jul-13	Tennis Members Evening	1
Jun-15	Chase Community Friends	3	Jul-15	Archeological Walk	0
Jun-15	Tennis Members Evening	1	Jul-15	Play Tennis 2000	1
Jun-17	Street Fayre & Carnival	2	Jul-16	Play Tennis 2000	1
Jun-18	Cricket Club Home Match	1	Jul-16	Bowls Club Home Match	2
Jun-19	Flower Arranging Club	0	Jul-17	Flower Arranging Club	0
Jun-19	Carnival Bingo	2	Jul-17	Bowls Club Home Match	2
Jun-19	Bowls Club Home Match	2	Jul-17	Tennis Coaching all ages	1
Jun-19	Tennis Coaching all ages	1	Jul-19	Downsman Copy Deadline	0
Jun-20	Bowls Club Home Match	2	Jul-19	Bowls Club Evening	2
Jun-21	Bowls Club Evening	2	Jul-19	Tennis Coaching adults	1
Jun-21	Tennis Coaching adults	1	Jul-20	Chase Community Friends	3
Jun-22	Chase Community Friends	3	Jul-20	Tennis Members Evening	1
Jun-22	Tennis Members Evening	1	Jul-23	Cricket Club Home Match	1
Jun-23	First School Fun Evening	3	Jul-23	Bowls Club Home Match	2
Jun-25	raceforlife	2	Jul-24	Tennis Coaching all ages	1
Jun-26	Tennis Coaching all ages	1	Jul-26	Bowls Club Evening	2
Jun-28	The Wednesday Club	0	Jul-26	Tennis Coaching adults	1
Jun-28	Cricket Club Home Match	1	Jul-27	Chase Community Friends	3
Jun-28	Bowls Club Evening	2	Jul-27	Tennis Members Evening	1
Jun-28	Tennis Coaching adults	1	Jul-30	Cricket Club Home Match	1
Jun-29	Chase Community Friends	3	Jul-30	Bowls Club Home Match	2
Jun-29	Tennis Members Evening	1	Jul-31	Tennis Coaching all ages	1

SIXPENNY

SIXPENNY HANDLEY FIRST SCHOOL

Age 4 - 9 years
Give your child a first class education in the friendly, caring environment of your village school.
Register your child as soon as possible to ensure a place.
Contact - Mrs A. Latchem (Headteacher) Tel:- 01725 552356

THE CHASE NURSERY LINK GROUP

An introduction to mainstream school. Time to get to know the teachers, the routines and expectations of school life.
Monday and Friday Afternoons 12:30pm - 3:00pm
Contact - Hazel Killeen Tel:- 01725 552980

THE CHASE NURSERY

Structured learning through play within a caring environment for children aged 2½ - 4.
Tuesday, Wednesday 9:30am - 12:00 noon + optional lunchtime 12noon - 1pm
Thursday 9:30am - 12:00 noon "Chasers"
A parent and child structured session for children aged 2 years +
Contact - Julia Stokes Tel:- 01725 552314

HAPPY NAPPY CLUB

Come and enjoy a friendly, fun-packed morning at the Village Hall.
Babies, toddlers and children under school age are welcome
- with their mothers and carers.
We always provide refreshments and sometimes special events.
Mondays 10.00am - 11.30am Term time
Contact - Penny Morrison Tel:- 01725 552024

Get Your Child Headed in
the Right Direction!

